

Enclosures
2657-L-135
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Record Section File No.
Copy No. 6-1
For Record Section Only

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT Argentina.

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Country Reported On

Subject Nazi Activities.

Ref Descriptive Title

RECEIVED 6/2 W. D. JUN 21 1941

I. G. No. 5940

Source and Degree of Reliability:

Reliability unknown.
Source - Broadcasting company.

Summarization of Report

When Required

Excerpts of letter received by broadcasting company, N.Y.
Infiltration German Nationals.
Sabotage.
Predicted disturbances in Latin America.

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

The following is an excerpt from a letter received by a New York broadcasting company:

"I take the liberty of bothering you again with these lines, to awaken the United States people to a danger they do not see. For the past month numerous Germans having come from Dakar (Africa) by air as fifth columns, to create disturbances in the Latin American countries. They are already proving their work in Buenos Aires where they jeered the representative of President Roosevelt (Mr. Douglas Fairbanks) and in addition sabotages have taken place in the Departments of War and Navy, with a loss estimated at \$80,000 dollars, etc. The schemers Foreman and Raushbulerg (Nazi secretaries of Hitler) have given optimistic results together with those of Burd (of Chicago, U.S.A.), espionage and sabotage agency.

"France is being pressed to enter the war within fifteen days, according to Pierre Laval through Radio Paris, transmitted in Spanish at 1 o'clock in the morning of May 22nd.

"The situation in the next month will be very grave for the United States as well as Latin America, since once England has been defeated, disturbances would break in South America under the pretext of warning to the Americans, that is the plan of Hitler.

"Erich Dannenbergh (sgd)"

Frederick D. Sharp
FREDERICK D. SHARP,
Lieut. Col., G.S.C.

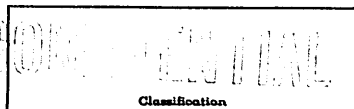
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From ~~NY~~ N.Y., N.I.D. Report No. 1229 Date June 20, 1941.
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**MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF**

MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT

Country Reported On

Subject Nazi Plans for Argentina

I.G. No. 3020

Final Descriptive Title

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. M. 11

Source and Degree of Reliability:

As stated.

Summarization of Report

When Required

Ref. "Argentina, the Weak Point", G-2 Report
No. 6618, I.G. 3020, May 6, 1941.

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

The following information is furnished by the Chief of the Special Section of the National Gendarmerie regarding the persons mentioned as attending the meeting:-

VOLLBERG(or VOLLWERK.) Heinrich:- Commanding General of all the Sections, Counsellor of the German Chamber of Commerce, A jefe in the "Unión Alemana de Gremios", Offices at 25 de Mayo No. 145, 4th floor, and Alsina No. 1250, A jefe of N.S.V. (Mutual Aid Society), Azopardo No. 816, A jefe of "Winter Help" in "Casa Parda" at 25 de Mayo No. 145, V.D.C. No. 39.

SCHRIFFER, Erwin (SCHRIEFER):- Lives at Santa Rosa No. 442 (Martínez), Office on Avenida R. S. Peña No. 760, Phone 34-2421, President of German "Unión de Gremios Alemanes" (7,000 members, 4,000 of which are in Buenos Aires).

LEONHARD(T), Heinrich:- 28 years old, sent here by Germany. Had no fixed residence, but now at Chile No. 1356. Charged with control of anti-Nazi Germans. Had a car, license plate 04296 (1940). (See Lene Hoersch)

HOERSCH, Lene:- Lives at Chile No. 1356 (Buenos Aires), sweetheart of Heinrich LEONHARD. Came to Argentina (1938?) with SANSTEDE.

Von SIMONS, Walter:- Ex-Chief of Gestapo in Chile, 45 years old, married, 1.80 meters tall, brown hair, wears glasses. Now head of Transocean, Avenida de Mayo No. 833, 3rd floor. Dr. ARNOLD is sub-director of Transocean, and director of Revista TROMMLER (Drum).

HERRMANN, Alfred:- Treasurer of German Chamber of Commerce, 25 de Mayo No. 145, 2nd floor. Nazi agitator.

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WILKENING, Walter:- Lives at Piedras No. 346. This house is considered an "estación de bloqueo"; probably has arms hidden in it, for a possible subversive movement.

MAUBACH, Wilhelm:- Lives at Sarmiento No. 381. This house is considered an "estación de bloqueo". Possibly arms are stored therein.

ARNOLD, Dr.:- Vice-President of Transocean, Avenida de Mayo No. 833, 3rd floor. Director of Revista TROMMLER.

ROHMER, Dr. Wilhelm:- Physician and surgeon, Córdoba No. 785, phone 31-0277. Anchorena No. 2485, phone 41-9030. Writer for TROMMLER. Member of "Liga Germánica Argentina".

TJARKS, Herman & Co. - Emil:- Owners of "Deutsche La Plata Zeitung". Lives at Corrientes No. 672. Has son John Wilhelm. His wife is Ana Fenime.

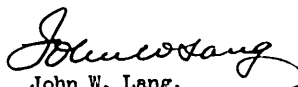
LUTGE, Dr. Wilhelm:- Jefe of "Liga Germánica".

WIELAND, Wilhelm:- Secretary of "Federation of German Circles of Beneficence and Culture", directed by MULLER.

BRANDT, Dr. Gottfried:- Member of Board of "Liga Germánica". Lives at Victoria No. 3101, phone 62-3942.

UNION ALEMANA DE GREMIOS:- One of more important groups for Nazism in Argentina. Has 7,000 members, 4,000 of which are in Buenos Aires. Its primary mission is to maintain permanent vigilance over German workmen and to collect "subscriptions" from them. Its secondary mission is that of getting jobs for and aiding Nazis out of work. It has a vast and complete network to aid Nazis to enter Argentina without passports. President: Erwin SCHRIEFER (SCHRIFTER), Vice-President: Eckart NEUMANN; the important man, however, is Kurt LANGE, who is Manager.

COMMENT:- I am informed today by Comandante Berenguer that Colonel Calderon, former Chief of Police, has turned over to "Acción Argentina" the speech by VOLLBERG (or VOLLWERK), and that it will be published in a week or so. He said that he (Berenguer) regretted the publication of the speech, but that "Acción Argentina" was giving Colonel Calderon several thousand copies for propaganda purposes. The day after G-2 Report No. 6618, I.G. 3020 of May 6, 1941, was written, "Critica" published a synopsis of the minor parts of this speech, leaving out some of the most significant points. Furthermore, it was placed at the bottom of an inside page and not given undue prominence, although it carried a 3 column head.


John W. Lang,
Colonel, Inf.,
Military Attaché.

All copies airmailed May 9, 1941.

From M.A. Argentina

Report No. 6622

May 8, 1941.

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MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

MILITARY ATTACHÉ REPORT Argentina

Subject Nazi Plans for Argentina Country Reported On Argentina
I. G. No. 3020

Source and Degree of Reliability:

As stated

Summarization of Report

When Required

Nazi official tells of organization in Argentina and says: "Argentina is the weak point in Panamerican Solidarity", and then gives plans for economic blockade of country to break Panamerican unity.

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

"On March 5, 1941, a meeting of high Nazi officials was held in the German Embassy in Buenos Aires. Those who attended were:-

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Dr. Wilhelm Brandt | 8. Dr. Arnold |
| 2. Wilhelm Lutje | 9. Ernest Grunwald |
| 3. Wilhelm Manbach | 10. Dr. Wilhelm Rohmer |
| 4. Walter Wilkening | 11. Walter von Simons |
| 5. Richard Leute | 12. Erwin Schriefer |
| 6. Alfred Herrmann | 13. Heinrich Leonhardt |
| 7. Emil Tjarks | 14. Wilhelm Wieland |

"At this meeting the chief of the 'Oficina de Fomento del Comercio Alemán con la República Argentina', Heinrich Vollberg, talked on the theme 'Argentina - the Weak Point of Panamerican Solidarity'. Among other things, he said:-

'There is the old and simple fact that every political idea, however good it may be, lacks probability of success

- 1) if it cannot be placed on a firm and well organized economic basis, and
- 2) if it fails to have behind it the necessary military force to overcome every resistance to new ideas.

'History shows that without the proper military backing, such ideas cannot succeed, nor can their application be assured if the economic basis is lacking or is insufficient. Thus the conclusion is deduced that for the realization of any new political theory, the economic basis plays a more important role than the military.

'From this conclusion it is not difficult to determine the real value - or better said the lack of value - of Panamericanism.

'Since the enunciation of the Monroe Doctrine of "America

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for the Americans", this idea of continental politics has been the object of many pseudoscientific studies, of impassioned parliamentary discussions, of phantasmagoric writers and fruitless conferences.

'The Monroe Doctrine was later converted into an instrument for Yankee economic expansion. The capitalist bankers and industrial titans in North America used it as an appropriate instrument to increase their financial and economic influence in Latin America, and to defend themselves from European competition. In every Panamerican Conference held to date, the agenda presented by the United States follow the same finality: to separate Latin American countries from their economic link with Europe and to convert them into commercial, industrial and financial colonies of the United States.

'It is necessary to recognize that the United States has been somewhat successful with this policy. The Central American countries: Cuba, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Haiti, Santo Domingo, Nicaragua, and Panamá, as well as Venezuela and Colombia, are independent sovereignties only in name; their internal and external politics are determined in Washington, and their economic life in New York.

'Also in Mexico, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, Uruguay and Chile yankee economic imperialism has achieved strong positions which yankee diplomacy uses to influence the internal and external policy of other countries.

'Of the countries of South America which have up to now successfully defended themselves against American tutelage, Argentina stands in the front rank. We do not offer anything new when we assert that Argentina is the traditional and irreconcilable adversary of the United States. From the capitalistic point of view, this antagonism has many causes. Also, Argentina is an independent state in name only: her politics, economy, finances are directed from London. Argentina is a British colony.

'This fact can be proved. The complex Argentine economy has been formed with foreign capital. The latest figures show foreign capital in Argentina as follows:- England \$ 5,200,000,000 (pesos), France 800,000,000 pesos, Belgium 230,000,000 pesos, Holland 140,000,000 pesos. The total amount of European capital invested in Argentina is about 6,500,000,000 pesos, of which 80% is British. In comparison, American investments amount to only 350,000,000 pesos.

'Corresponding to the preponderant influence of English capital, production in Argentina is adapted principally to the necessities of foreign markets, especially the English. In 1936, 37 and 38 total Argentine exports amounted to 5,367,163,005 pesos. Those to Central and Western Europe were:-

England	1,713,033,035	32.0%
Belgium	450,649,145	8.4
Holland	460,849,415	8.4
Germany	417,367,308	7.8
France	259,775,159	4.8
Italy	218,809,839	4.1
Denmark	83,624,886 (
Sweden	73,489,644)	4.0
Norway	57,095,547 (

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Czechoslovakia	56,880,937 (
Poland	<u>47,240,519)</u>	<u>2.0</u>
TOTAL	3,838,824,434	71.5%
The United States imported only	614,936,782	or 11.4%

'From this comparison it is seen that Argentine economy depends on the markets of Europe, in prosperity as in depression.

'A change in the distribution of Argentine exports in favor of the United States is impossible considering Argentine products, the principal of which are meat, wheat, corn, linseed, hides and wool. The United States produces these same things in excess of her own necessities. Therefore, the United States is and will continue to be a competitor of Argentina in the foreign markets, especially in Europe.

'That competition alone constitutes a great obstacle to the United States' efforts to get Argentina lined up in a common Panamerican policy. No Argentine Government has up to now had its own political policy in Panamerican problems - they had to follow scrupulously directions from London. Thus one can infer that the antagonism between Argentina and the United States is nothing more than the old rivalry between England and the United States.

'Owing to these two circumstances, all efforts of the United States indirectly and predominately to influence Argentina through the policy of Panamericanism will fail. In other words: Argentina is the weak spot in Panamerican solidarity.

'Since the present war commenced in Europe, the intensive Panamerican policy directed from Washington assumed against Europe a more aggressive position than before. Foreseeing the future new order and the economic union of Europe under the absolute domination and political control of Germany, the United States attempted to obtain absolute political hegemony over the American continent and a more intensive economic penetration of the southern hemisphere.

'The success of such a plan would be not only a powerful obstacle for the future Pan-European policy of Hitler, but also a great danger, if not an impediment to the German plans with respect to South America now generally outlined.

'For racial reasons, from a policy of food supply and territory as well as of raw materials, Germany has been obliged and has decided to proceed to a revision of the present political conformation of South America. The great distances between South America and Europe, and besides the assured expectation of intervention by the U.S. Navy, excludes the realization of such revision by military means on the part of Europe. Therefore, all our preparatory work toward that future objective has been concentrated and has to continue concentrating itself on creating economic, political and diplomatic means to fight against this, by the aid of which the hidden objective can be reached. These methods of combat must of necessity be partly offensive and partly defensive, defensive in smashing American plans for South America while the war lasts.

'Up to now our labor in this regard has been crowned with great success. For that our principal effort has been concentrated in Argentina, the weak point in the Panamerican front. Taking skilful advantage of the special economic situation of Argentina, its internal

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political dissensions, such as - and it is certainly paradoxical - the convergence of British economic interests with ours, we have gotten the circles that dominate politics and that direct the economy to assume an attitude favorable to us and directed against the United States.

'Our present mission consists not only of maintaining this condition until military operations in Europe end, but also of augmenting the belief that for Argentina the reestablishment of commercial relations with Europe under the limitless direction of Adolf Hitler will be possible only if Argentina's opposition to America's plans is maintained.

'The political isolation of Argentina which would be achieved in this way is of decisive importance for the political future of Germany, on its way toward the fulfilment of its own plans and the breaking up of the Panamerican front.

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'The execution of these plans will enter the decisive phase immediately after the defeat of England. We cannot fix that date now, but for us Nationalsocialists there is no doubt that British resistance will be broken this year. We are guaranteed that by the word of our Fuehrer and by the victorious German Army.

'In Argentina, our mission is to prepare the ground most carefully and to improve and strengthen the offensive elements of the fight which later will enter into action in everything that is within our field of activities.

'For that, spoken and written propaganda plays an important role. The object of this propaganda is to awaken many doubts as to the sincerity of all American promises, present and future, and not only in political and economic circles, but also in the great mass of the people. The greater and more general the lack of confidence created in the United States, the easier it will be to further the hopes that immediately after the war the old commercial relations with Europe will be renewed, and thus an end will come to the internal economic difficulties caused by the war.

'The propaganda used to attain these objectives should avoid intelligently all fundamental questions of ideology and political themes. For the Argentine in general, and more so for the professional politician, politics has always been a means for acquiring personal wealth. Therefore, it is psychologically correct to stimulate egoisms and efforts to get personal benefits of a material nature. It is certain that the political and economic revolutions, which we are trying to realize in Argentina, will meet much less resistance the more we sow the conviction or belief that by it the general economic situation in Argentina will be bettered, and thus the possibilities for each one to become rich will be increased.

'Besides, it is important to know in what respects the German importation in Argentina had to fight prior to this present war against powerful foreign competition. European competition won't exist after this war; the economic domination of Europe will not only give us means to beat it down, but will enable us to use it as a weapon against Japanese and American competition. But a correct understanding of this competition is essential basis for the efficient employment of this weapon. For this reason our

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coreligionists, especially those who are businessmen, must send us reports on all available details of commercial relations of Argentina with Japan and the United States.

'The internal situation in Argentina is also an object of our especial attention. The present abyss between the Radical Party, the most powerful party, and the "selected minority", La Concordancia, which exercises the executive function, does not result entirely from the internal situation, and much less from political causes, as both parties argue in public. An appreciable cause comes from the work of our confidential agents who operate in both political groups: some of them have very extensive political connections and great possibilities of influence on certain personalities in whom we are especially interested. These confidential men work conscientiously to keep alive the controversy between these two strongest political groups by inciting them to a futile and great waste of political energy - and thus discrediting them in the eyes of the public. The more the administration and the opposition are discredited, the riper the public is for our propaganda and ultimate plans.

'The agitated internal politics of Argentina in the past teaches that political revolutions were never achieved against the will of the Army or against the will of the generals, who always have exercised great political influence. In every successful coup d'état, the impulse and execution were mostly in the hands of high military chiefs.

'Our efforts to maintain a constant influence among the Army officers and to make them friendly to us have had only partial success. Among the majority of the younger officers (who lack political influence) and especially among those of German descent, we have been able to arouse great sympathy by means of skilful and discreet propaganda, supported by the personal influence of our confidential men. There exists, however, small possibility that high officers on the active list and of great political influence will demonstrate the same open sympathy at the decisive moment for the execution of our plans. Especially selected and capable, confidential men have very discreetly been engaged for some time in the mission of persuading at least a part of the higher officers to adopt a passive, hopeful and neutralizing attitude, and to sabotage, if necessary, whatever active defensive measures other high officers may take.

'Of considerable importance in our preparatory task is that of the Germans and people of German descent who live in Argentina. Thousands of them support our cause. Many more sympathize with us. The great military successes of Germany during last year bind many of them more closely than ever to us. The primary mission of every party officer is to make of these people wholehearted comrades. The severest discipline, the unconditional submission to the will of the directors, and an extraordinary aggressive fighting spirit are, as the decisive moment approaches, the conditions which must predominate in those elements of our organization which may be destined for active intervention.

'The preparatory work under our direction among Italian and Spanish organizations and also those of our Argentine friends is progressing favorably. Our Argentine friends have merited our special consideration by virtue of the necessity of having it appear to the

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public as a popular movement when the moment comes for an open outbreak, and later when a national-authoritative government is formed.

'With particular care we have been able to form and draw to us a small but select circle of Argentines who, for their personal ideas and ability, knowledge and experience, influence and political connections, are destined to represent the directorate of a national-authoritarian Argentina, which we consider a step in transition (from present to totalitarian). As the majority of these Argentines are motivated by ambition, or as Alfred Muller said correctly, to satisfy their itch for money; these circumstances constitute an inevitable esthetic imperfection which will later be rooted out, when the new situation we are going to create is consolidated. These elements will be purged, since, according to our plans, their collaboration has been anticipated for the first step only, and thus for a limited time.

'When he was recently in Berlin, Party member Dr. Baron von Thermann explained personally to Gauleiter Bohle why, in spite of our most careful preparation, the plans for last year could not at the last moment be carried out. In many conferences with Party members and Ministers Hess, Himmler, Goebbels, Funk and Darré, which were attended by Kohn, Kuester and Mueller, it was decided to proceed in Argentina actively as soon as England is definitely liquidated.

'The new and definite plan of action assures us of 100% possibility of success. It foresees as the principal means in the fight the effective employment of an economic weapon which up to now has been used as a threat only to produce psychological effects, namely: the closing of European consumers' markets to Argentine exports.

'Earlier in my talk I demonstrated that before the war Europe consumed almost three fourths of Argentina's exports. The loss of a considerable part of these markets and the impossibility of finding new markets caused a grave economic crisis here. The future total loss of the British market will necessarily provoke economic disaster and a social and political breakdown. In this situation the simple, official announcement of an economic blockade will provoke, even though for a short time only, an intolerable situation, or even the immediate collapse of the existing order.

'In elaborating plans to bring about such a situation, we have taken into account also the possibility of American intervention in the form of supporting credits and economic aid. In this case, the official repetition of economic blockade of Argentina by Europe is useless.

'The general opinion exists here that immediately after the war Europe will need urgently Argentine products; this is wrong. The importation of food and raw materials from overseas during the first post-war years will be subject to considerable limitation, partly voluntary and partly for reasons growing out of the war and of the European New Order. On one hand, increase in European production, stimulated even now by every means, as well as the rationing of imported articles of all kinds will be maintained for a long time; on the other hand, the great scarcity of storage space will for a long time limit to a minimum overseas imports to Europe. Urgent and indispensable articles can be supplied over a long period from

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accumulated war reserves and by current production in other places, such as the United States, Canada, Australia, Asia and Africa.

'Also the necessities of European exportation and the interest in Argentina as a consumer of manufactured products will constitute a problem requiring later solution. European industry will have to be reorganized and transformed from war to peace production; this will require some time.

'For these reasons and without jeopardizing herself, the New Europe can for a long time maintain an inexorable economic blockade against Argentina, and certainly long enough to bring about the destruction of the existing social and political order in order to prepare the country and its people for the action we then will undertake - this in spite of all yankee help to Argentina.

'The moment for this action cannot yet be predicted by any of us, but every Party member here today, each enjoying the absolute confidence of our Führer and of our Gauleiter Bohle, and executing special and delicate tasks within our preparatory organization, must have the unmistakable conviction that that moment will arrive with fatal certainty. A well understood duty of each one of you is to dedicate to that conviction all your thoughts and actions.

'Foreseeing the extraordinary economic misery each inhabitant of this country will feel because of the economic blockade, the executive board has in addition to the "Winter Help", provided for the creation of a special organization of assistance whose mission will be to advise and help in every way the Party members, working members, German sympathizers, and those of German descent belonging to other organizations. It must be expected, nevertheless, that even now each one anticipate the situation which will exist and take necessary steps to overcome for himself the difficulties resulting from curtailed business activities and unemployment. German colonists in the interior should be advised discreetly, and obviously without disclosing to them the real motives, they must begin to and for some time adapt their economic activities to subsisting on local products and suspend momentarily the production of export articles which will be affected by the blockade. Such a precautionary measure will make them more resistant to future difficulties, and in many cases will permit them to sustain themselves while all around them everything collapses.'"

COMMENT:

The foregoing is a translation I made of a paper in Spanish which was lent to me by the Chief of the Special Section of the National Gendarmerie. He is charged with watching Nazi activities. I heard from a Military Intelligence Reserve Officer in Bogotá that my informant is pro-American and was desirous of making contact with our Embassy, so I established contact. A copy of this purported speech on "Argentina, the Weak Point in Panamerican Solidarity" was given by me to the Embassy here. Comandante Berenguer, my informant, is considered in the Embassy as "one who cannot be bought by the Nazis".

The 14 gentlemen who are recorded as attending the meeting appear in Embassy records as follows:-

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BRANDT, Dr. Gottfried:- Considered by many as the Party Chief in Argentina. Owns a medicinal and chemical factory. Reputed to be wealthy and an ardent Nazi.

MAUBACH, Wilhelm:- Owns a photo shop which is a Nazi meeting place. Specializes in getting photos of British, French, etc. agents, and uncomplimentary ones of Argentines and diplomats. Reported to be used by Transocean and German Embassy as "candid" photographer.

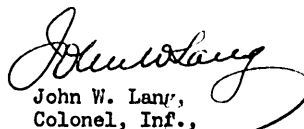
WILKENING, Walter:- Owns a music store, radio repair and accessory shop. Reported as a "listener" for the Nazis. Distributes programs of German radio broadcasts and maintains a ceaseless check on German "amateur" radio operators in Argentina.

Von SIMONS, Walter:- Head of Transocean for South America. Considered most dangerous Nazi propagandist. Has been in Argentina since October '40, although he resided here previously. Came from Lima.

LEONHARDT, Heinz:- Nazi agent. Travels extensively through South America. ONI has data on him.

TJARKS, Emil:- Said to own "Deutsche La Plata Zeitung".

Am seeking information regarding the others.


John W. Lan,
Colonel, Inf.,
Military Attaché.

All copies airmailed May 7, 1941.

<p>Classification</p>

<p>Enclosures</p> <p>Record Section File No.</p> <p>Copy No.</p> <p>For Record Section Only</p>

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT Argentina

Subject Argentine Leaders Back Democracy. I. G. No. 3850

<p>Source and Degree of Reliability:</p> <p>Reports of Meetings.</p>
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<p>Summarization of Report</p> <p>When Required</p> <p>Ref. G-2 Rep't. No. 6256, I.G. 3850, June 13, 1940.</p> <p>In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here</p>
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During the past week delegates from all over Argentina to the number of 370 gathered in Buenos Aires at the call of Accion Argentina(whose organization and leaders were reported as mentioned in above reference) to take steps outside the government for consolidating public opinion against the Totalitarian regimes and in favor of united democracies in the Western Hemisphere. The meetings were called "Cabildo Abierto" or "open forum" in English - better still "Town Meeting" New England style.

In the space of just less than a year since "Accion Argentina" was formed in 1940, the democratic movement which it inaugurated in the Federal Capital has spread until now there are branches throughout the Republic. The 370 delegates meeting in Buenos Aires for the first Cabildo Abierto represented the thinking people, regardless of class or party ties, from every province of the country.

Señor Julio A. Noble, a civil engineer, ex-deputy, and head of the organization which is raising funds for the training of 5,000 civilian pilots, was the presiding officer. President Ortiz sent the meeting a written message of congratulation from his sick room. Such political leaders as Dr. Marcelo T. Alvear, Nicolas Repetto, Dr. Alejandro Ceballos, all of different political faiths, were among the speakers.

Dr. Repetto stated: "A totalitarian victory would not only plunge into slavery the major part of the most advanced European countries, but menace the economic interests and undoubtedly break the system of reason and liberty of our own continent."

Dr. Ceballos stated that the Nazis had already commenced their work of penetration and disruption in South America by seeking to provoke war between Peru and Ecuador, and that only the intervention of the United States, Brazil and Argentina had prevented bloodshed.

Dr. Noble threw back the Argentine Nazi question: "Die for Great

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From M. A. Argentina Report No. 6655 Date May 27, 1941.
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Britain?" with the answer: "The women and children who die in Great Britain (under bombings) die for us." After alluding to the vacillating conduct of Acting President Castillo in the present state of world affairs, the speaker said: "I believe I interpret the feelings of all men of politics who have met here if I say to the Vice President of the Republic that in carrying out the propositions we have voted (advocating pro-democratic social and economic measures), he may count on the support of all of us."

The delegates at Cabildo Abierto approved a 17-point declaration on economic policy, demanding, among other things, that the Government: open new markets, preferably in the Americas, for Argentine products; build a merchant navy; mobilize inactive capital and facilitate the entry of new capital; facilitate the exploitation of Argentine mineral wealth; balance the budget; tax income on public bonds; raise the income tax rate on incomes over \$10,000 pesos per year; readjust rural rental contracts (share croppers); restrict profiteering on articles of prime necessity; subdivide the great land holdings to the benefit of the small farmer; foster popular housing; nationalize the public services; give equal salaries to women for the same work; foster immigration; and apply the colonization law immediately.

COMMENT.

The importance of this Cabildo Abierto session lies in the fact that this is the first time in Argentina that educated people, men and women, have risen above purely party politics and have banded together for the good of the country as a whole in such numbers and representing every section of the country. They showed the way to others by uniting against the menace of Totalitarian domination in South America and in favor of backing democracy and following the lead of the United States in the present world crisis.

(See Current Events No. 58 for the background of Señor Noble).

2048 145/34

John W. Lang
John W. Lang,
Colonel, Inf.,
Military Attaché.

All copies airmailed May 29th.

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Enclosures
2657-L-133
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Record Section File No.

Copy No. 1

For Record Section Only

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT Argentina.....
Country Reported On

Subject Nazi Plans in Argentina..... I. G. No. 3020
Brief Descriptive Title
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 8 1941

Source and Degree of Reliability:

As stated

Summarization of Report
When Required

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

The following is from the British Intelligence Service who had an agent, a member of the Club, present at the party.

"April 29, 1941.

"GERMAN CLUB.

"A very drunken and happy party took place at this Club last Saturday(April 26) to celebrate the fall of Athens. They were openly boasting of their marvellous organization here(Argentina), and stated that the whole country can be in their hands within twenty-four hours. They have every group organized throughout the country to the minutest detail. The Navy, Army and Air Force will not have a chance to do anything as the main points of the city will be taken unawares and be in their possession within half an hour. The time for this to take place is stated to be the moment that the United States declares war on Germany. Government House and other government buildings, Post offices, wireless stations, barracks and other public buildings will be surrounded and taken by the people living in the vicinity. No warning will be given of this coup and the only news people will have will be when the matter is all over and the people will find they have lost everything."

COMMENT.

The action "predicted" may be consummated only if the Argentine Army is ripe for it. It is also my opinion that such action may be attempted largely as a diversion. Beyond doubt, a band of resolute Germans can paralyze Buenos Aires in a few hours by seizing public utilities and key points within the city, and if the Army is disaffected, they can hold them. The number of Nazi sympathizers in the Military Forces is notoriously large, therefore, any plans for counter action on the part of the military will be known to the Nazis before it can be effected. The "boss" of the nation, General Justo, has no especial love for the United States, but his hatred of the German ideology makes him comparatively pro-Ally. It is believed, therefore, that he will use his influence and power to suppress a coup d'etat.

John W. Lang
John W. Lang, Col., Inf., M.A.

G-2 Distribution: 4, 5, 6,
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From M. A. Argentina..... Report No. 6612..... Date April 30, 1941.....
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Record Section File No.
Copy No. 6-1
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MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
MILITARY ATTACHÉ REPORT Argentina.....

Subject Nazi Organizations in Argentina..... I. G. No. 3020
First Descriptive Title RECEIVED G/2 M. D. MAY 6 1941

Source and Degree of Reliability:

Personal contacts; reliable.

Summarization of Report
When Required

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

The organizations controlled or promoted by the German Embassy are divided into three groups:-

1. The out-spoken party organizations which control Germans and German-speaking residents.
2. The German organizations which work in connection with Argentines.
3. The organizations built up by the German Embassy to fight, from an Argentine point of view, Allied and Panamerican propaganda.

First: After the so-called Patagonian affair, the Argentine Government ordered the dissolution of the Nazi Party "National-sozialistische Deutsche Arbeiter Partei, Landesgruppe Argentinien" and the Labor Front "Deutsche Arbeitsfront, Landesgruppe Argentinien". Both organizations were organized in local groups, cells and supporting points. The Labor Front has also organized in German and Argentine (ostensibly Argentine, but in reality German) firms their own "communities" (Betriebsgemeinschaften). In addition, the German singing clubs have their central organization in the "Deutscher Saengerbund La Plata-Gau", the athletic clubs in the "Reichsbund fuer Leibesuebungen, La Plata-Gau", the bowling clubs in "Deutscher Keglerverband am Rio de La Plata", the German Protestant Churches in the "Deutsche La Plata Synode, and the football (soccer) clubs in the "Deutsche Fussballverband". After the Government's decision, the Party was reorganized with the same leader in the "Bund Deutscher Wohlfahrts-und Kultur-Gemeinschaften" ("Federación de los Circulos Alemanes de Beneficencia y Cultura"). Local organizations, cells and other groups continue under other names.

The Labor Front, now called "Bund Schaffender Deutscher" ("Unión Alemana de Gremios"), has exactly the same organization as before;

C-2 Distribution: 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100
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From M. A. Argentina..... Report No. 6600..... Date April 24, 1941.....
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Classification

G-2 Report.

3020

the same is true of the welfare organization "A.M.K." ("Arbeitsgemeinschaft Mutter und Kind" - "Labor Community Mother and Child").

The other central organizations only changed their names, which were "Deutscher Saemerkbund im La Plata", and "Deutscher Bund fuer Leibesuehungen", the latter of which also took over the central football organization. As a result of Argentine Government orders, all Nazi organizations are now under one head. The "Deutscher Schulverband", which promotes the German schools in Argentina, is directly under the orders of the Cultural Attaché to the Embassy, Dr. Metzger.

All other German welfare organizations which existed before Hitler came into power, such as the Sailors' Home, German Hospital, etc., are also "gleichgeschaltet", under Nazi control.

The "Unión Germánica" ("Deutscher Volksbund fuer Argentinien"), which also existed before Hitler's regime and had one hundred fifty branches in the country, was during the first years a little opposed to the Party aims; later, however, it was built up as an organization to take over all Party work in case of difficulties. Now the "Unión Germánica" is responsible for German propaganda work in the interior, distribution of books, organization of motion picture showings, etc.

The Party, the Labor Front, and the Union have their own German monthly magazines, and a big staff of men travelling in the interior of the country to inspect the different organizations. The German Church is lined up absolutely with the Party, and exercises a particularly potent influence on the German-Russians in the colonies of the Province of Entre Rios, where a weekly, "Der Russlanddeutsche", is edited and is widely distributed. In Crespo, there also exists an institute for the education of young German farmers and teachers.

The German Catholics are not 100% pro-Nazi, but are generally afraid to show any opposition. A few priests do secret work against the Nazi organizations - officially, however, the Federation of German Catholics is pro-Hitler.

The leadership of all these organizations is usually in the hands of harmless Germans. Control is exercised by "men in the dark" (behind the scenes), i.e., Gottfried Sandste, former second Party leader and now Press Attaché to the German Embassy, Herr Volberg, whose official mission is to promote "German after-war commerce", and Military Attaché General Gunther Niedenfuhr. These are the leading men connected with propaganda, industries, and military matters, and also with the Gestapo. Other agents of the Himmeler organization are generally unknown - even in the Embassy. Herr Mengers, Editor-in-Chief of the Party Monthly "Der Trommler" focused attention upon himself in recent months by the expenditure of large sums of money.

Second: The German organizations which are in permanent contact with Argentines are much more dangerous than the so-called Party organizations which exercise control over Germans only. The "Instituto Cultural Argentino-Germano" works along the same lines as similar institutions of other nationalities; German lessons and lectures about German topics, music, painting, etc. are given.

The German Chamber of Commerce is doing the same work as similar organizations but its scope is much wider; they offer their services to everybody.

C-2 Report.

RESTRICTED

6600

The German Club is a German social center where Argentines are often entertained.

The German Riding Club is very important, for there officers of the Argentine Army are permanent guests and are entertained in a clever and fashionable manner.

The German soldiers' federation "Reichskriegerbund Kuff Haenser", which, before the new orders of the Argentine Government, claimed to be controlled by the S.S. ("Schutz Staffel", i.e., Elite Guard), is a very good liaison organization with the Argentine Army, many of whose generals and chiefs served in German regiments and are such "natural" German soldiers.

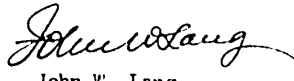
The Rowing Club Teutonia also plays an important part in the propaganda campaign of the Nazis in Argentina.

The organizations mentioned in the first and second group are contributing to the Winter help, a special fund for the needy in Germany.

Third: After the formation of "Acción Argentina", a democratic organization, the "Afirmación Argentina" was organized. This group, which has a lot of adherents in certain Argentine pro-Fascist circles and among the youth, proclaims the right of the Argentines to govern themselves and favors a policy of strict neutrality.

A Society of Friends of Germany founded by embassy officials and a few Argentines connected with German commerce was a failure.

The Italians have a few Italian Clubs and the "Dopolavoro". The attempt to organize a society of descendants of Italians has been a failure, as was also the attempt to collect money for the Italian Red Cross. As yet Spanish organizations are of no importance.



John W. Lang,
Colonel, Inf.,
Military Attaché.

All copies airmailed April 25, 1941.

From M. A. Argentina

Report 6600

April 24, 1941.

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Enclosures

Record Section File No.

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MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

MILITARY ATTACHÉ REPORT Argentina

Country Reported On

Subject Argentines connected with Japanese and Nazis I.G. No. 5940

Brief Descriptive Title

Source and Degree of Reliability:

Personal contacts.

RECEIVED G. I. W. B. MAR

Summarization of Report

When Required

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

It has been reported previously that General Juan Bautista Molina, Ret., has pronounced Nazi leanings. It has now been learned that he receives some of his orders direct from Berlin. By order of the Minister of Interior, General Molina is continuously under the eyes of the secret police.

The General is acquainted with, but it is not known how intimately, Dr. Albino Pugnalin who is a local attorney and formerly Argentine Minister in Tokyo. Pugnalin has offices here next door to the Japanese Legation, and is really head man for Japanese propaganda (espionage?) in Argentina. He is also an intimate friend of Baron von Therman, the German Ambassador, and also works with a Japanese army officer named Nambu Kumai. Furthermore, he receives much correspondence from both Germany and Japan.

Pugnalin also has in his office, but very secretly, a Japanese named Shiro Iwasaki who is reported to be an ace Japanese spy. He was Japanese consul in Kabul in 1938 under the name of Shintaro Iwasaki. He came to Argentina about three months ago with three other Japanese, one of whom was connected with the embassy, and others with the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and a newspaper in Japan. He was reported by the British to be meeting a certain Dr. Abel Frugoni at a local restaurant but after an investigation of Frugoni lasting several weeks no connection between the two could be found.

In the meantime Iwasaki disappeared but later returned suddenly by Condor plane from Rio de Janeiro and was traced to Pugnalin's office. He still disappears at times, and is regarded as a very slick customer.

M. A. Devine, Jr.,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Military Attaché.

All copies airmailed Feb. 21st.

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From M. A. Argentina Report No. 6524 Date February 20, 1941.

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Accompany Dispatch (All and) copies of "BESILE".

In his translation of General Bautista Molina's Speech at the luncheon he and other pro-Nazis gave for the German Ambassador, Herr von Thiermann, upon the completion of seven years as German Ambassador in Buenos Aires, as published in "BESILE" of Nov. 14, 1940, Page 14.

"Mr. Ambassador, Gentlemen:

"Soon the German Ambassador will be celebrating his seventh year as the representative of the Reich Government. Anticipating, in this simple and cordial luncheon the celebration of that date, constitutes for us, as Argentines, a real, although modest, pleasure, in the affectionate sentiment that the Ambassador inspires in us, and also the admiration awakened in our spirit by that great nation which he represents.

LET US PROVE OURSELVES IN DIFFICULT TIMES.

"I believe it is the opportune time to express such sentiments so precise to the confusion of the majority who inspire hate and ill feeling. It is the simple and trivial truth that real friends are proven in difficult times. Germany is at war. It has been so before on another memorable occasion, and that time, too, our country was carried away from the pattern of impartiality that is really imposed by neutrality.

MANIFESTS GERMAN SENTIMENTS.

"Actual circumstances should not, therefore, suffocate the expression of our sentiments; on the contrary, we understand that they dictate the duty of expressing with corresponding frankness as Argentines conscious of their responsibility and honor.

"There are not lacking those who proclaim their sympathy toward certain belligerent nations. Not with lesser merit are we to proclaim ourselves, the Argentines old friends of Germany, in our admiration and respect for a country which has given to the cause of occidental culture and the civilization of modern times the permanent contribution of their blood, their work, their technique.

CONFIDENT IN THE HEROIC NAZI SITUATION.

"It is just that we carry on - and why not say it - with confidence for this tremendous and heroic deed of that great nation now surrounded by the fate of circumstances, co-partner with the new Italy, in the sacrifice and glory of its titanic force.

HIGH VIRTUES OF THE GERMAN SOLDIER.

"Let me add to these general reflections one more antecedent - and this is personal - to justify on my part those sentiments. I was in Germany before and after the World War; as a professional - and I also believe I interpret the sentiment of the high-ranking army officers who are with me at this table, and many more who are away from the city on service and are sorry they are not present on this occasion - I have been able to see as well as many of my colleagues the high military virtues that distinguish the German soldier. I conserve, not only of the army but of the cultural, generous and disciplined country, an indelible memory of cordial friendship and brilliant hospitality.

NOTHING WILL STOP THE SPONTANEOUS IMPULSE OF OUR HEARTS

"The presence at this table of representatives of the Army, Navy, Legislators, Magistrates, intellectual and distinguished members of our society, who so generously wanted to accompany me at this luncheon, demonstrates in itself that those sentiments of affection and admiration are amply found in all walks of Argentine activity. I must admit that, although there is an disloyal and interested propaganda, it is impossible for one moment to stop the sincere and spontaneous impulse of our hearts."

Von Thiermann followed Molina who finished amid great applause.

He said:

"I shall start, my esteemed General and distinguished friend, by thanking you for addressing me with such friendly and honourous words. I can interpret all the understanding they contain, but they are not meant for me but for my country which I have had the honor to represent in this noble nation for the past seven years. What I am particularly thankful about is that you recognize my constant work in procuring a most ample knowledge of this country. With this object in mind I have made innumerable trips, having had the opportunity of seeing the northern part of the country, admiring the grand Iguazú waterfalls. In the south, the richness of petroleum in Comodoro Rivadavia. In the west, the majestic beauty of the Andes and the cultivated valleys in Mendoza. And, in general the whole expanse of the Argentine territory, the never-ending fertility of a country which has a capacity of sustaining many more millions of inhabitants than it is now doing.

Translation from "Desfile".

"It is really astonishing how determined propaganda has been able to make the German immigrant or sons of Germans forget the merits that can invoke responsibility for anti-Argentine activity. With an open conscience of my responsibility I can prove that until the present in no case is there a clue that can be held against us. I am referring to the matter initiated on account of the 'affaire' of Patagonia. I can not give my opinion about the process now taking place against the German colonists in Misiones, for it is still in the hands of the courts. Therefore if the love of a country and the respect for the laws that govern it are interpreted, including German citizens resident in this country, as a crime directed against the country of adoption, then this crime is committed by innumerable Germans as well as millions of Spaniards and Italians.

MORE GERMANS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO ENTER.

"I am of the belief that the Argentine Government in consequence of its politically sincere neutrality before this European situation has no intention of abandoning the German migratory element, whose loyalty and valor for the progress of the nation have always been recognized, to agitations the purpose of which is transparent for this would be in violation of the Constitution and of promises made to these immigrants, asking for the complete oppression of those who then would have no other recourse except to return to their own country.

"I take it for granted that you who know Germany by sight do not take heed of such calumnious propaganda. If I have referred to this problem it has been done in a desire to place the reality of things before this select circle. I am certain that all these maneuvers are bound to fail, because ample circles in this country have another idea of Germany and the Germans, and particularly of the value of German immigration. I am confident for this reason that the traditional German-Argentine friendship will continue in spite of these attacks directed against it, frequently by very slippery methods."

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Record Section File No.

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MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT Argentina.

Country Reported On

Subject Nazi Ship Sabotage Plan.

I. G. No. 5940.

Source and Degree of Reliability:

Police & Press.

Summarization of Report

When Required

Ref. Comments on Current Events No. 41, Rept.#6439

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

Local port police believe that the explosion and subsequent fire which totally destroyed a commercial structure in the South Dock section early on the morning of February 8th, and blew a passing policeman many feet, was caused by a time bomb which was to have been placed on an American or British vessel leaving Buenos Aires. First theories were that a gasoline storage tank had been the cause of the explosion, but as the blast was felt for many blocks the police have come to the bomb theory.

For some days this police section has been investigating the activities of what they term Gestapo agents in the waterfront section. They state that evidence has been unearthed revealing a plot to place time bombs on British and American vessels as was done here during the World War. One such bomb was placed on the French steamer Gascony some months ago here but exploded while stevedores were still working in the hold, killing one and injuring several.

Report was brought to the Military Attaché some weeks ago that a former crew member of the American Republics Line was to place a bomb on one of these passenger vessels at Santos en route to New York. He was to fly from Montevideo to Santos for the purpose. This information was communicated to the Embassy, officials of the company here, and by them to the police who picked up the alleged saboteur before he could leave Buenos Aires.

Ukrainian elements resident in the Buenos Aires dock section are said by the police to be the actual agents used by the Nazis for the proposed placing of time bombs aboard vessels. Some time ago the police discovered a large amount of explosives in Ukrainian hands which at the time was believed destined for packing-plant and steamer sabotage.

M. A. Devine, Jr.
M. A. Devine, Jr.,
Colonel, G.S.,
Military Attaché.

All copies airmailed Feb.12th.

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From M. A. Argentina. Report No. 6509 Date February 10, 1941.

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MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

MILITARY ATTACHÉ REPORT Argentina
Country Reported On

Subject Nazis in Argentina I.G. No. 3020
Brief Descriptive Title

Source and Degree of Reliability: Press, police and court action.
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Summarization of Report When Required
In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

Nazis who were arrested in Apostoles, Territory of Misiones, after a roundup by the Gendarmerie several weeks ago (previously reported) have been given their liberty by the judge in Posadas (capital) on the ground that the evidence did not warrant criminal action against them. The Court ruled, however, that these disturbers of the national order could be proceeded against on grounds of political crime, as they had organized a subversive movement which was broken up by the activity of the Gendarmes. Territorial authorities look to the Federal Government to issue deportation orders against these Germans.

There seems to have been a lull in Nazi activity recently or else it is kept so much undercover as to be hidden from the authorities. The northern part of the country, in spite of the breakdown of the Misiones movement, appears to be of special interest to the Nazis.

Last Sunday in Salta, capital of the province of the same name, located in the foothills of the Andes in the far north of Argentina the police arrested a German named Emil Vogt, 28 years of age, who is said to be an agent of the Gestapo and to have been active in Misiones as a propaganda agent. He was teacher in a local school.

When searched by the Salta police, Vogt was found to be carrying maps of Brazil and Argentina, a large number of fotos which he had taken, and which included those of bridges, barracks and aerodromes, besides rough sketches of bridges and highways with shorthand notes which the police were unable to decipher. Vogt was travelling by motorcycle and had been through the provinces of Mendoza, San Juan, La Rioja, Entre Rios, Corrientes, Córdoba, Santiago del Estero, Catamarca and Tucumán.

In the absence of the Military Attaché.

H. E. Walker
H. E. Walker,
Clerk in Charge.

All copies airmailed Jan. 17th.

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From M. A. Argentina Report No. 6479 Date January 17, 1941
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